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# The Messenger

“... How beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings of good things!” Romans 10:15

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Evangelist and Editor  
Dempsey Collins

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## Psalm 23: My Trust Is in the Lord

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Matthew Collins  
(Conclusion)

A famous writer was asked to come back and give a speech at his old high school. The writer felt honored and agreed to come and deliver a speech. When it came time to speak, the famous writer gave quite a performance as he delivered a speech that had both faculty and students marveling at his message. Finally, for his grand conclusion, he recited the 23rd Psalm. He said, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want..." After he was finished, he received a standing ovation with applause that was heard throughout the school. As the audience began to sit back down and the flashes from the cameras were ceasing, the writer looked out and noticed one of his older teachers from long ago, a man who had actually taught him the 23rd Psalm and inspired him to become a writer. Delighted to see him, the writer asked the old teacher to come up and recite the 23rd Psalm as he had done. The old teacher was reluctant but agreed. He slowly walked onto the stage as the writer sat down in a chair amongst the audience. The old teacher began to speak and said, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall never want. He makes me lie down in the greenest of pastures, and He leads me beside such still and quiet waters. He restores my weary soul ..." One by one, the audience began to get up from their chairs and leave the school. By the time the old

teacher was finished with the Psalm, only two were left, the famous writer and a perplexed student. The old teacher slowly got down from the stage and left the school. The perplexed student went over and sat down next to the writer, who was still sitting in his seat. The student asked, "Why is it that when you recited the 23rd Psalm, everyone gave you a standing ovation, yet when the old teacher recited the same psalm, they all left?" The famous writer sighed, then looked up at the student and said with a very timid voice, "You see son, while I know the Psalm, the old teacher knows the shepherd. I don't know the shepherd."

There are some passages of scripture that are very familiar to us. We have heard them for years and may be able to quote them with ease. Psalm 23 is one that is very familiar. Scripture is often seen on posters and t-shirts in public. Now passages are often branded into the skin of individuals that desire a fancy tattoo or possibly just desire self-confidence knowing the Bible is involved in their lives somehow. My desires are not one in the same. Shall I brand the Word of God on my skin? I, rather, consider scripture most useful ingrained in my heart. For there it will speak louder than any t-shirt, poster, or even a tattoo.

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# Paid in Full

*Joe R. Barnett*

Monthly payments have become a way of life. Easy credit. Buy now, pay later.

American economists are concerned about the immense debt load. Many young couples get so far into debt; it is almost impossible to get out.

I've had my share of those monthly obligations. What a relief to come to that last payment and write across the bottom of the check "Final Payment" or "Paid in Full."

Archeologists have found many tax receipts from early centuries with the Latin consummatum est scrawled across them. It means paid.

The Greek equivalent is tetelestai. This is the Greek equivalent of the word Jesus spoke from the Cross when he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. Tetelestai - "It is finished." He had come into the

world to seek and save the lost. This was the climax of that mission.

Tetelestai. Sin's account was settled. The debt was paid in full. No more "payment due" notices from Satan.

There's nothing you have to accomplish personally to gain redemption. The final payment has been made for you. All you need do is, by your obedience, gratefully accept that payment. The debt is paid. Tetelestai.

We are not saved by our attainment, but by Christ's atonement.

Jesus paid it all.

All to Him I owe;

Sin had left a crimson stain -

He washed it white as snow.

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## Paul's Evangelistic Journeys

*Dempsey Collins*

<b>First Journey</b> Acts 13:1 - 14:28 48-49 AD (Galatians) Turkey	<b>Second Journey</b> Acts 15:36 - 18:22 50-53 AD (I & II Thessalonians) Turkey, Europe	<b>Third Journey</b> Acts 18:23 - 21:17 54-57 AD (I & II Corinthians, Romans) Retraced 2 <sup>nd</sup>
<b>Imprisoned in Caesarea</b> Acts 23:23 - 26:32 58-60 AD (Felix, Festus, Agrippa)	<b>Journey to Rome</b> Acts 27:1 - 28:16	<b>First Rom Imprisonment</b> 61-63 AD (Colossians, Ephesians, Philippians, Philemon)
<b>Release and Final Travels</b> 63-65 AD (I Timothy, Titus)	<b>Second Imprisonment</b> 66 AD (II Timothy)	<b>Jerusalem Destroyed</b> 70 AD